MEETING

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

LANDS COMMISSION

NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
REPORT AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

MALIBU CITY HALL

23815 STUART RANCH ROAD

MALIBU, CALIFORNIA

TUESDAY, MAY 3, 2011 3:00 P.M.

TIFFANY KRAFT, CSR CERTIFIED SHORTHAND REPORTER LICENSE NUMBER 12277

APPEARANCES

STATE LANDS STAFF

Mr. Kenneth Foster, Public Land Management Specialist, Land Management Division

Mr. Eric Gillies, Assistant Chief, Division of Environmental Planning and Management

Ms. Crystal Spurr, Staff Environmental Scientist, Division of Environmental Planning and Management

ALSO PRESENT

Mr. Russell H. Boudreau, Moffatt & Nichol

Mr. Kenneth Ehrlich, Trancas Property Owner's Association

Ms. Tonia McMahon, Moffatt & Nichol

INDEX PAGE Opening Comments by Staff 1 Comments by Mr. Ehrlich 3 Presentation by Mr. Boudreau 12 Public Comments 22 Adjournment 24 Reporter's Certificate 25

PROCEEDINGS

STAFF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST SPURR: I'm going to go ahead and start the scoping meeting for the Broad Beach Restoration Project EIR. We're going to be transcribing this meeting so we'll have a record of all the comments we receive today.

There is a copy of the Notice of Preparation on the table. There is also a sign-in sheet. We appreciate if you sign in, that way we'll have your name and address for the mailing list.

Any consultants here, could you please sign both the bidders' conference, which we'll have after this meeting, and the public meeting sign-in sheet?

We also have some speaker slips over there. If you would like to make comments tonight, please put your name on one of the speaker sheets and then hand it to one of us at the table, and I'll call each person up in order.

My name is Crystal Spurr. I'm Staff
Environmental Scientist for the California State Lands
Commission, Division of Environmental Planning and
Management. I'll be managing the preparation of the EIR
for the Broad Beach Restoration Project.

We have two other people here from the State

Lands Commission: Eric Gillies, Assistant Division Chief

of the Environmental Planning and Management Division; and

then Ken Foster from Land Management Division, who will be handling the lease of State Lands for the Broad Beach Restoration Project.

Since State Lands will be handling preparation of the EIR, we are the lead agency in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act, we'll be preparing it in accordance with CEQA. We have a process that we use to hire a consulting firm to assist us in the preparation of the EIR. The consulting firm that the State Lands Commission chooses will do a third-party review of all of the information that's provided to us by the applicant, which is the Trancas Property Owners' Association. And also the consultant that's hired will also do any additional work that's necessary in assisting us in the preparation of the EIR.

Some of you are here tonight because you received a Notice of Preparation. The Notice of Preparation was mailed out on April 15th. It is out for 30-day public comment period, which ends on May 16th. The NOP starts the scoping process in which we would like to hear from public and agencies on what the scoping content of the EIR should be, which is what we'll be doing tonight.

Our proposed schedule for release of the draft EIR is early November 2011. At that time, we'll e-mail a Notice of Availability to everyone on our mailing list.

And we'll have a 45-day public review period on the draft EIR.

During that time, we'll also hold -- we'll again hold two public meetings to hear comments on the draft EIR. Once the comment period is over on the draft EIR, we will prepare a final EIR, which will include responses to all the comments that we received on the draft EIR.

Anyone who commented on the draft EIR will receive a copy of the final EIR on a disk.

We will also send a Notice of Availability when the final EIR is completed, which will include a date, time, and location for a Commission meeting. And at the Commission meeting, the Commissioners will make a decision at that time whether to certify the EIR and whether to approve the Broad Beach Restoration Project. We are expecting a Commission meeting sometime in May or June of 2012.

Are there any questions on the EIR process at this time?

What we're going to do now is provide a description of the proposed Broad Beach Restoration Project. I would like to introduce Ken Ehrlich, who is representing the applicant, the Trancas Property Owners' Association. And he'll be making a presentation or have someone with him making the presentation on the project.

MR. EHRLICH: Thanks. My name is Ken Ehrlich.

I'm an environmental lawyer for the Trancas Property

Owners' Association and for the proposed Broad Beach

Geologic Hazard Abatement District.

To my right is Tonia McMahon and Russ Boudreau of Moffatt & Nichol, well respected coastal engineers who have been working hand in hand with the Broad Beach homeowners for the past couple of years in connection with their efforts to restore Broad Beach.

As I was sitting here and listening to Crystal's schedule, which I love hearing the agency lay out such a clear, concise schedule and really well planned, I was thinking of maybe making a bad joke about introducing myself as a guitarist who wants to build five houses in Sweet Water Mesa, but I decided I can't disparage you that way.

The Broad Beach homeowners, as probably everyone in the audience understands, own private property, beach-front property along Broad Beach, which is approximately one mile from Trancas Creek on the east to point Lechuza on the west. People think of the coastline as north and south. But in truth, it's east and west. So just think if you're going toward Ventura, at that area, you're going toward the west. And if you're going toward Santa Monica, you're going toward the east.

The area consists of 1134 homes within the project area. The project area does not include the house on the point, the actual point of Point Lechuza. But it does include the last house next to Trancas Creek and all of the beach-front properties between the two.

For years and years, the private owners of Broad Beach have been fighting a problem with erosion. They have gotten permitted sandbags -- well, eons and eons ago, they used to bring mechanized equipment onto the beach, and that's not a good thing. But in recent years, the homeowners have gotten permitted sandbags for emergency permits from the City of Malibu in response to 2008 high tides which were threatening to damage the homes.

Many of the homes -- so people understand also -- have septic systems and leach fields seaward of the homes. Based on redevelopment patterns, there is a smattering of homes along Broad Beach Road that actually have their septic systems landward of the home itself. But a fair amount of the homes up and down the beach have the septic systems and leach fields seaward of the homes. That added to the property damage threat by the high tides and the beach erosion.

If you're from this area and have spent any appreciable amount of time over a long period of time at Broad Beach, you realize in the 1970s and earlier the

beach itself was over 200 feet long and had a dedicated natural dune system which formed a nice natural buffer between the private homes at Broad Beach and the areas seaward of the mean high tide line, which are public recreational areas. And they belong to the State of California.

That beach, as we all knew it decades ago, has eroded significantly down to the point last -- and in the fall of 2010, there was basically no beach left at all. The dunes had eroded -- almost all of the dunes had eroded completely. The property owners, frankly, had lost whatever sense of privacy they have over their homes. The public lost a beach, and there really was no more Broad Beach.

So what happened is the homeowners got together -- and the sandbags that I referred to a few minutes ago really proved to not be a very practical long-term solution. Mother Nature is far stronger than sandbags. Mother Nature strew the sandbags all over the beach. It was ugly. Nobody liked it. A lot of the homeowners and beach-goers would come and somehow get in touch and call me and say it looks like Beirut, and we'd say, "Yeah, it does look like Beirut," what you would envision Beirut would look like in a war zone. So the sandbags were not an appropriate solution.

So the homeowners got together with assistance from the City and eight other public agencies. And Russ has a slide to go over all those agencies. And we were able to permit on an emergency basis a rock revetment -- a temporary rock revetment that sits now in front of seaward of 77 homes at Broad Beach.

Now, I mentioned a few minutes ago, there are 114 homes. Why is the rock revetment only in front of 77 homes? And the short answer is those are the homes where we can prove an emergency actually existed and were entitled to the rock revetment. There was also one home within that zone which chose not to participate. So as we sit here today, it does not have a rock revetment in front of it.

The homes further to the west -- the revetment now ends on the west side at 31346 Broad Beach Road, which is one house to the west of the western most vertical access way of Broad Beach. West of that home, the homes either have seawalls or other means of shoreline protected devices or it was deemed unnecessary and no emergency would exist. So a revetment could not be permitted seaward of those homes.

So where we sit right now is rock revetment seaward of some homes, which frankly gives the homeowners some solace and protection from the tides, but is an

eyesore and not really the aesthetic that anyone wants, the public or the homeowners.

So the homeowners have gotten together in an organized way like never before and come forward with an effort to restore the beach. An unprecedented effort, I must say, on the west coast, to spend private money to provide for what's looking like now a 100-foot wide dry sand beach. Much of that will directly benefit the public and will be public recreation dry sand beach.

The plan now does not call for any more deposition of rocks. The need for additional rocks, if any, remains under study. But as we sit here right now, there's no -- it should be noteworthy in the project description, if you didn't already pick it out, there are no more deposition of rocks.

The project calls for the importation of sand from within Santa Monica Bay, hopefully as close as the Zuma side of Point Dume, which we think is actually the sand that left Broad Beach and eroded. We're going to go in between probably 50 and 80 feet of water out of the immediate surf zone. And sort of not taking from ourselves, but into 50 or 80 feet of water where we believe there are large sand deposits of beach-grade sand and barge that sand back onto the beach to make what we're talking about, 100-foot wide beach.

At the same time, the dunes will be restored to their natural state with natural flora and fauna along this stretch of beach.

And in order to privately fund it, this will again be privately funded. We're on the road right now to creating an assessment district whereby all of the homes within that area would privately fund this and pay for it through self-assessments over the next number of years. The project cost itself will exceed \$10 million. The permitting costs are probably going to range around \$2 million, and the permitting will last far longer than the project.

We've begun the permitting process right now. The project itself should probably take somewhere between four and eight weeks of actual construction. I say construction -- and Russ and Tonia can actually detail that a lot more what that actually means and how you bring sand onto the beach and what it entails and what the barges look like and how big they are, et cetera. There should be far less noise impacts, for example, than the revetment work.

The revetment work did work within specified work hours and we maintain that schedule. We actually -- the revetment work was done ahead of schedule and maintained the work hours that we were given. So we're very proud of

that.

We certainly try to reach out to the community to make sure the community was notified of the work. I got numerous calls from interested citizens and was happy to field them. And we certainly remain open during this process to remain a good neighbor, a good citizen to work not only with the governmental agencies, but the environmental groups, other non-governmental organizations and the community to make sure that this project is a success for everybody.

The homeowners are banded together like never before. They realize that the public is getting more benefit than them out of this. And that's okay. I mean, that's really what everyone wants. There's been a fair amount of friction in decades past over what is private property at Broad Beach and what is public property. Our hope is that this would do away with all of that.

We're in negotiations with the Coastal Commission over what exactly that public/private boundary is going to look like and what it's going to be defined as at the end of the day. But as people -- most people know now, if you walk up and down Broad Beach, you're walking onto and off of public and private property all the time. It's far from an ideal situation. And it just makes for confusion, especially -- especially when there's really no dry sand

beach for anyone to enjoy. So everyone is crammed into a smaller and smaller area.

And our goal here is to completely get rid of that and into the future so there is a significant dry sand public beach. The vertical access ways which now have stairs over them, the sand will rise up on the seaward side so there shouldn't be any steps down to the beach. We're literally raising the level of beach along with the width of the beach so the public will be able to enjoy the resources far more than they and you can now.

I think that's about all I have to say.

ASSISTANT CHIEF GILLIES: The depth of sand you just described is in the pro forma there?

MR. EHRLICH: Approximately. Let me go over -- Russ can read those in his sleep. And I can't read them when I'm close.

But the bottom line is the left one is sort of a beach profile as to what it would look like. And the right side is an artist's rendering -- a not-to-scale artist's rendering of what we're talking about at the end of the process.

One thing I want to make clear to everyone is that the typical cross section on the left is just that, a typical cross section. Certain homes -- depending on the construction of the homes -- the contour of the sand at

the border between the home and the new imported sand nourishment will be contoured to properly reflect the home and make sure that the home is being protected and not harmed, et cetera, and to blend in with the environment. So I call it contouring, and I don't know if there is a better word for it. But that is a typical cross section profile as to what it's going to look like.

And the goal and the depiction on the right, the photographic depiction on the right may not convey the goal accurately, but the goal is to make essentially a uniform 100-foot wide broad sand beach. And there might be some maintenance in between where the owners' association or the assessment district, once it's up and running, would have the ability to move sand within that zone to equalize areas of erosion. Let's say one area of Broad Beach is still 100 feet wide seven or eight or ten years from now, God willing, and another area is only, let's say, 70 feet wide. We're going for -- angling for with the permitting agencies -- and they appear to be supportive of it in concept -- to move that sand around to equalize it all to maintain the sand in between nourishment cycles.

So we're not constantly in the process of bringing sand onto the beach, which is disruptive, costs a lot of money for the remobilizing all the time. And,

frankly, it's not nearly as beneficial as just maintaining a nice beach for everyone all the time.

Russ.

(Thereupon an overhead presentation was presented as follows.)

MR. BOUDREAU: I'll go ahead and take it from here.

Ken and I have done this talk enough times that more and more Ken does more and more of my presentation. So he said a lot of the points, but I'm going to maybe hit some of them in more detail. And I would certainly encourage you after I give my presentation or at the end of the presentation to come up and familiarize yourselves a little bit more with these graphics.

But anyways, just a few more minutes to give you a little background on the project.

So, again, here's -- we talk about it runs east/west. This is Point Lechuza. And this is Broad Beach here. Again, this -- it's about a mile long. What's important is immediately to the east or southeast of that is Zuma State Beach, and then Point Dume State Beach down here. So very, very popular public beaches.

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MR. BOUDREAU: So we actually -- Moffatt & Nichol got started working with the TPOA, the Trancas Property

Owners' Association, which represent the homeowners of Broad Beach, back in 2009 to basically get started on a long-term restoration plan. They had problems with shoreline erosion, sandbag revetments, and things like that. So just due to a lack of sediment coming in on the beach, the beach has been quite narrow and problems such as that due to erosion and lack of natural sand replenishment.

This is a photo back in 1972. So like 40 years ago, there was sufficient sand that was coming into Broad Beach sufficiently wide. That's probably where it got its name, Broad Beach. So the goal is to just restore Broad Beach to what it was in terms of the healthy and wide sandy beach and the healthy and wide dune system as well. So that's the goal is to bring it back to what it was 40 years ago.

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MR. BOUDREAU: Don't spend a lot of time on this graph. What's important is that we've done a fair amount of studies looking at how the shoreline is behaving over time.

And a couple of important points are, you know, since the 1970s, on average, Broad Beach has lost approximately 20,000 cubic yards a year on average. If you look at in recent years -- the past five years, it's

accelerated. In the past five years, it's lost about 35,000 cubic yards per year. So that's the salient point to talk about to take out of this graph right here.

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MR. BOUDREAU: So we got started in 2009. And just like Ken said, it looks like a war zone around here. This was the look of Broad Beach for the entire reach of the beach almost all the way down to Trancas Creek. And a hodge-podge of falling apart sandbag revetments that were just considered temporary until something more of a long-term solution was done. So they were littering the beach and things such as that. Created a lot of problems.

But then the winter of 2009/2010 hit, and there was fairly significant wave action during that winter, not just here, but elsewhere on the coast. And so these sandbag revetments were failing.

Here's a photo here of a significant structural failure to kind of a patio structure at the west end. The sandbags were failing. And on many of these residents, the septic systems in some cases got within ten feet or so of the ocean. So something really had to be done.

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MR. BOUDREAU: So action was taken. We put our pencils down for the long-term plan and came up with something to do in an emergency basis. So to protect the

homes, to protect the septic systems, we pursued emergency shore protection permits to put a temporary rock revetment in place.

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MR. BOUDREAU: And so in addition to getting permission from the city of Laguna Beach and from the California State --

MR. EHRLICH: City of Malibu.

MR. BOUDREAU: -- City of Malibu -- sorry -- and California Coastal Commission, we also got permission from these various agencies to again put in the temporary revetment structure. So this is the type of project that we went through.

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MR. BOUDREAU: But it's important to note some people have come up to me and said we've seen those rocks and what are they doing there and how could you let that happen? And what's important for people to understand is that's only a temporary measure to finish the project and put the long-term solution in. So stone revetment is considered a temporary interim measure pending the long-term beach restoration project.

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MR. BOUDREAU: So what are we talking about here is we're back to the long-term restoration project, as Ken

said. It's a beach nourishment project. This looks much the same as that photograph I showed you from 1972. We widened the beach. We create dune habitat and protect existing dune habitat that's down here.

Also what we do is we're going to leave the proposed project is we leave the revetment in and that's going to be ferried. And the slide that comes up will show you, but this is to scale.

This is the emergency revetment that's in now.

This is basically a beach profile before it was constructed. And this is how much sand that's going to cover it up. So until all this erodes away, this is going to be buried. So that's the intent. But it is available for the homeowners in the event that we get near the end of the beach nourishment cycle and there's a lot of serious storms. They've got that last line of protection to hold them to protect their property until the next nourishment cycle is put in place.

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MR. BOUDREAU: So that's just a graphic that shows basically that same thing to scale. The elevation of the beach berm is the standard beach elevation which is about +14 feet mean lower water. When you walk out on a wide sandy beach in Southern California, that's about the elevation, give or take a couple of feet. And then in

areas where there is a dune restoration, we have it going up to +20 feet. But that will vary depending upon the location and homeowner desires and things such as that, but that gives you an idea of the project.

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MR. BOUDREAU: So it's approximately 6,000 feet long beach nourishment by 100-feet wide. The dune lesser, because we're not doing it at the west end. But about 50 feet wide and up to approximately plus 20. It will vary, but it just gives you a general idea.

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MR. BOUDREAU: The volume of sand that we predict will be required for the initial beach nourishment project is 6,000 cubic yards --

MR. EHRLICH: 600.

MR. BOUDREAU: 600,000 cubic yards. So then what's important to think about is that I talked about the average loss has been 20,000 per year. Recently, it's been 35,000. So if you take 600,000 and we say this is going to last ten years, it tells you there's going to be some sand left. We don't want it to be completely gone before we do a new re-nourishment cycle.

But also these are averages and you just don't know what Mother Nature is going to give you. So there's -- as coastal engineers, we have some buffer built

in. So the intent is 600,000 cubic yards of initial beach nourishment on Broad Beach.

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MR. BOUDREAU: And it's important to point out, too -- if I didn't hit on that -- is for beach processes -- in general, beach sand in this location moves from west to east and north to south. So whatever sand is placed here is not going to just -- it's going to move down drift. So what's going to be a real benefit is not -- in addition to the homeowners here and the public who get access on that beach, that beach sand is going to feed down to Zuma, Point Dume, and so there is a significant public benefit. Because in the studies we've done, they also show that, no surprise, that Zuma Beach is also narrowing and losing sand. So it's a real benefit for the public.

So we've done some studies to date. We've looked at coastal processes and analyzed sediment transport, change in volumes on the beaches in the area to look at different alternatives. And we've also done some initial sand source investigations to look at feasibility of doing this beach nourishment project.

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MR. BOUDREAU: So I've already hit on these points here and basically indicated the bottom line is

there is a real benefit. Given these volumes, we feel very comfortable that beach nourishment is feasible at this location. There's other locations on the coast where it might not be feasible. Just the losses are so great, it would be too difficult for private homeowners to strap that on themselves. But at this particular location, it's something that appears to be manageable. They will benefit, but so will the public down drift.

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MR. BOUDREAU: We've also been doing some sand source investigation, and we found nearby there's good source sand nearby offshore with good volumes and good quality. And be assured in this process that any source of sand will be thoroughly investigated and tested for any contaminants, biological impacts, things like that. So it will clearly be identified as beach quality sand before a grain of sand will go on the beach.

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MR. BOUDREAU: The ongoing studies right now are a couple things. We're doing more detailed studies of sand investigations. We just completed an off-shore geophysical investigation that maps locations of potential sand deposits and also the volumes that are located there.

We've also taken grab samples to get a feel for the quality, the grain size, if there's any fines or

larger materials in there. And that gave us very good results.

We presented our sampling and analysis plan where we would go out and actually take core -- full depth core samples. We presented our sampling analysis plan to the various resource agencies last week, including EPA, Coastal Commission, Corps of Engineers, Water Board. Some minor comments; we've responded to those. We anticipate getting approved sampling analysis plan this week. And our hope is to do our Phase 2 fiber coring sometime before the end of this month.

We have ongoing beach profiling as well to -basically, right now, we're measuring the pre-project
performance of the beach. We measure the beach in detail
kind of in the late summer and then in the late winter to
get an idea of seasonal changes and longer-term changes.

We're also doing some evaluation of -- we understand the problem, but what are some of the causes. So we're looking further up drift to see what's happening. Is it a sediment deficit issue? Is it a wave climate issue or some combination thereof? And we're in the midst of those studies right now.

We're also looking at the performance of the beach fill over time. In support of the EIR, there's going to be issues of what happens to the sand. Where

does it go? Is it going to cover up existing critical habitat? Things like that. We're doing the modeling that will help determine where that sand will go.

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MR. BOUDREAU: So right now in terms of entitlement, we've been having planning meetings with all the key agencies, applying for permits. And right now, why we are here today is the Notice of Preparation for the draft EIR and the Public Scoping Meeting.

So that's pretty much a description of the project, the proposed project that's going to be carried forward in the EIR.

And that's it for the slides. Thank you.

STAFF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST SPURR: Does anyone have any questions on the project as proposed?

MR. EAMER: I do.

ASSISTANT CHIEF GILLIES: If you could state your name.

MR. EAMER: Brian Eamer, Malibu resident.

When are the results of the sand -- you know, the studies that show where the sand is going to eventually end up, when will those be available for the public to see?

MR. BOUDREAU: They're going to be completed by summertime. But my intent is -- my guess is they would be

as part of the EIR and then submitted at that time. I'm not sure the actual time they would be released. But whether they would be released ahead of time or part of the draft EIR, that I'm --

MR. EHRLICH: We're told what reports to do and what studies to do. Then we give them to the agency that asked us to do them, and they do what they want with them.

MR. EAMER: By the latest, they'd be out by the draft EIR?

STAFF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST SPURR: Correct.

MR. EHRLICH: Correct.

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ASSISTANT CHIEF GILLIES: What we do is put a lot of technical reports in the appendices of the EIR for background information.

STAFF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST SPURR: Any other questions?

That ends our presentation. And we're going to open it up for comments. I don't have any speaker slips.

Is there anyone that would like to make some comments at this time for the record?

Okay. We are going to close the public meeting, and we'll stick around until 4:30 if you have any questions.

ASSISTANT CHIEF GILLIES: We'll have another meeting at 6:00 that will cover the same information. We

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do the two meetings for folks that can't make it in the
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    afternoon. We'll have a meeting at 6:00.
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              STAFF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST SPURR: Thank you
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    all for coming.
              (Whereupon the meeting concluded at 3:35 p.m.)
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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

I, TIFFANY C. KRAFT, a Certified Shorthand
Reporter of the State of California, and Registered
Professional Reporter, do hereby certify:

That I am a disinterested person herein; that the foregoing hearing was reported in shorthand by me,
Tiffany C. Kraft, a Certified Shorthand Reporter of the
State of California, and thereafter transcribed into typewriting.

I further certify that I am not of counsel or attorney for any of the parties to said hearing nor in any way interested in the outcome of said hearing.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 5th day of May, 2011.

TIFFANY C. KRAFT, CSR, RPR
Certified Shorthand Reporter
License No. 12277